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Letter dated 1 October 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on 25 September 2003 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union, concerning the security arrangements agreed by the Government of the Sudan and SPLM/SPLA on 24 September (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Marcello **Spatafora**
Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 1 October 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement issued on 25 September 2003 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union, concerning the security arrangements agreed by the Government of the Sudan and SPLM/SPLA on 24 September

The European Union welcomes the agreement on security arrangements reached on 24 September by the delegation of the Government of the Sudan, led by the first Vice-President, Ali Osman Taha, and the delegation of SPLM/SPLA, led by the Chairman, John Garang. The agreement reached and the personal engagement of the two leaders augur well for the continuation of negotiations on the remaining outstanding issues.

The European Union encourages the parties to seize the momentum and to spare no effort to reach a final and comprehensive agreement.

The European Union reiterates its readiness to assist the parties in the implementation of the peace agreement and to accompany the Sudan on a path of peace-building, respect for human rights, democracy and development.

The acceding countries Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, the associated countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey and the EFTA countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.